

# Good Friday



*An Ecumenical Service of  
the Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross*

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
People's Congregational Church  
Bayport, MN

April 2, 2021 - 7:00pm

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*On this Good Friday we reflect together on the Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross. Members from Bethlehem Lutheran Church and People's Congregational Church have written meditations on each of the Seven Words. Through these words we hear God's message to us in the midst of our suffering. We hear how much God cares for our world and for us. We hear about the unfathomable love and forgiveness that is in God's heart. We hear, in a very personal human way, God's mission for the Church, and we hear what God has in store for us in the future.*

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## Gathering

### Prelude

### Prayer of the Day

L Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen

### Hymn

*O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

ELW 319

- 1) O Lord, throughout these forty days you prayed and kept the fast; inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past.
- 2) Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind above; so teach us to deny ourselves that we may know God's love.

### Litany

*please respond by reading the bold print*

Isaiah 53:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Who has believed what we have heard?

**And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?**

<sup>2</sup> For he grew up before him like a young plant,  
and like a root out of dry ground;

**he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.**

<sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by others;  
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;

**and as one from whom others hide their faces  
he was despised, and we held him of no account.**

<sup>4</sup> Surely he has borne our infirmities  
and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted him stricken,  
struck down by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But he was wounded for our transgressions,  
crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the punishment that made us whole,  
and by his bruises we are healed.

<sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have all turned to our own way,  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.

## The Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross

I. *Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.*

Luke 23:32-38

Mary Pilquist

Hymn

*Ah, Holy Jesus*

ELW 349

- 1) Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended that we to judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.
- 2) Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

II. *Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.*

Luke 23:39-43

Mark Stephan

Hymn

*Jesus, Remember Me*

ELW 616

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. (repeat)

III. *I am thirsty.*

John 19:28

Mary Olson

Hymn

*Oh Lord, Hear My Prayer*

ELW 751

- 1) O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and listen to me.
- 2) The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.  
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

IV. *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?* Mark 15:33-36  
Jill Greenhalgh

Hymn *Stay With Me* ELW 348  
Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray, watch and pray. (repeat)

V. *Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.* Luke 23:44-47  
Nora Tahtinen

Hymn *Ubi Caritas* ELW 642  
1) Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.  
2) Where true charity and love abide, God is dwelling there; God is dwelling there.

VI. *Woman here is your son. Here is your mother.* John 19:25-27  
Mary Trendera

Hymn *Go to Dark Gethsemane* ELW 347  
1) Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r; your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one final hour; turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.  
2) Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned; oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
3) Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" here him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

VII. *It is finished.* John 19:29-30  
Ian Patrick

Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* ELW 351  
1) Oh sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down, now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown; O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine! Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.  
2) What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend, for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end? Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be, Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

**Silence for Reflection**

## Prayer of the People

### Bidding Prayer

*Each prayer concludes:*

L We ask this through Christ our Lord, C Amen.

## Veiling of the Cross

### Dialogue

*The following is said three times as the pastors approach the altar.*

L Behold, the life-giving cross on which  
was hung the Savior of the whole world.

C Oh, come, let us worship him.

### Removal of The Christ Candle

### Veiling of The Cross

### Return of The Christ Candle

### †Lord's Prayer (*whispered by all*)

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*The service ends in silence.*

*You are invited to remain online for a time of silent prayer and reflection.*

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